



## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

State Reclamation Board

### NORTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS MOSQUITO CONTROL AND WETLANDS MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

William Mehaffey, Jr.  
*District Supervisor*

Robyn A. Januszewski  
*District Administrator*

Emily DW Sullivan  
*Wetlands Project Coordinator*

Esteban L. Cuebas-Incle, Ph.D  
*Entomologist*

261 Northern Boulevard, Plum Island  
Newburyport, MA 01950

[www.northeastmassmosquito.com](http://www.northeastmassmosquito.com)

Telephone: 978.463.6630

Fax: 978.463.6631



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*Chairman*

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*Vice Chairman*

Joseph T. Giarrusso,  
*Conservation Officer*

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Dear Board of Health Member,

With the mosquito over for this season, we are already gearing up for the next season. As you may know, residents can exempt their property from pesticide application and in the past we did our best to accommodate all requests. Beginning in 2014, we were no longer able to accommodate requests that did not adhere to 333 CMR 13:00, due to a determination by the State's legal department (please see attached regulation). We are asking that you inform the residents of your town to insure that those who wish to exempt their property send their certified letter to the town clerk no later than the March 1 of the year they are requesting exemption. Designation for exclusion may be made prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and shall be effective from April 1<sup>st</sup> of that year through March 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year.

Properties to be exempted will be entered into our new data collection and mapping program. This program is designed to alert the applicator of an upcoming, exempted property allowing the sprayer to be turned off in an appropriate time frame. Properties included in the exemption layer of the mapping program are based on the actual parcel boundaries (according to the Mass GIS database) to allow for better exemption of the entire property.

We are informing the local Boards of Health and Municipal Clerks as this is a change from previous years when residents could call us directly to have their property exempted. As requests come in to the Clerk's office, they may be forwarded directly to us, entered into one database to be sent to our office no later than March 5 or collected by the clerk for pick up by a District representative in early March. The desires of the owner of the property will take precedence over those of a tenant according to 333 CMR 13:00.

If you should have any questions regarding these changes, please feel free to contact our office. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robyn Januszewski, District Administrator

***Committed to a partnership of the principles of mosquito control and wetlands management***

### **Property Exclusion from Pesticides**

Date:

Please exclude the following property from mosquito control activities this year:

Resident name:

Address:

Town:

Telephone number:

Property owner (if different):

Address of owner:

Town:

Types of mosquito control applications to be excluded:

\_\_\_\_\_ Adulticiding

\_\_\_\_\_ Larviciding

This form must be submitted by certified letter dated between January 1 and March 1, of the year the exclusion is requested, to the Municipal Clerk in the town in which the property exists. The exclusion will run from April 1 of that year to March 31 of the following year.



### **13.03: Exclusions from Pesticide Application**

#### **(1) General.**

(a) Wide Area Applications of pesticides and mosquito control applications of pesticides approved by the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board shall not be made to private property which has been designated for exclusion from such application by a person living on or legally in control of said property.

(b) Designation for exclusion from Wide Area Applications of pesticides and mosquito control applications of pesticides approved by the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board may be made by supplying the clerk of the municipality in which such lands lie with a certified letter providing the name, address, and telephone number (if any) of the person requesting the exclusion, the address of the property to be excluded, and a description of the types of pesticide application programs for which exclusion is requested.

(c) Designation for exclusion may be made prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year and shall be effective from April 1<sup>st</sup> of that year through March 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year.

(d) A designation for exclusion made by a tenant shall not be deemed to limit the right of the landlord to apply, or authorize the application of, pesticides to that land if by the express or implied terms of the written or oral rental agreement the owner retains the right to apply or authorize the application of such pesticides.

(e) 333 CMR 13.03 shall not be deemed to limit the right of an easement holder to apply pesticides to land which is subject to the easement if the easement expressly or implicitly includes the right to apply pesticides.

(f) A designation for exclusion made by a joint owner, tenant in common, or owner of a condominium unit shall not be deemed to limit the right of any other joint owner, tenant in common, condominium unit owner or condominium association to apply or authorize the application of pesticides to land if by the express or implied terms of the deed, condominium agreement or other agreement governing such land such other joint owner, tenant in common, condominium unit owner or condominium association retains the right to apply or authorize the application of such pesticides.

(2) Marking Areas for Exclusion. All areas designated for exclusion from Wide Area Applications of pesticides and mosquito control applications of pesticides approved by the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board shall be marked as follows:

(a) Applications by Aircraft. The person requesting exclusion shall clearly mark boundaries or areas to be excluded with helium filled balloons or other marking methods previously approved by the Department. Such balloons or other marking materials shall be provided by the Contracting Entity. The Contracting Entity shall appropriately mark the excluded areas on the maps required under 333 CMR 13.04(5) and on maps used by

the pilots who shall be alerted by the Contracting Entity of the markings delineating the excluded area.

(b) Ground Applications. The person requesting exclusion shall mark the boundaries or areas to be excluded at least every 50 feet with orange surveyor's tape or another Department-approved marking device which clearly defines the area of exclusion. These markings shall be made known to the Contracting Entity, who shall be responsible for communicating the details of their marking to those who will carry out the application.

(3) Requests for exclusion shall not be honored in those cases in which:

(a) The Commissioner of Public Health has certified that the application is to be made to protect the Public Health;

(b) The Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Recreation has certified that the application is necessary to contain an infestation of a recently introduced pest; or

(c) The Commissioner of the Department of Agricultural Resources has certified that the application is necessary to contain an infestation of a pest which is a significant threat to agriculture.